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Northern Yukon Research Programme

Field 1979

In 1979, the Northern Yukon Research Programme completed the final season of field work supported by the five-year negotiated grant awarded by the Canada Council in 1975. In general terms, the 1979 field work confirmed the findings of 1978, and provided additional collections and stratigraphic understanding. Of particular interest was the exposure and recovery of a rich Pleistocene fauna in the Bluefish Caves. Although previous excavation had revealed traces of this, there was no indication prior to deep excavation that the faunal remains would be so abundant. A chipped stone implement was found in association with them.

The several principal investigators, associates and graduate students engaged in long term research emerging from the Programme will continue their work, in some cases for as much as two years beyond the expiry of the Canada Council - SSHRC core grant in May 1980. In addition, the analysis of data and collections is expected to suggest interesting future work. We are seeking ways to keep the collections and records in active use as research aids, and ways to make our material and experience useful to other students.

About two years from now, when our results are fully known and evaluated, we look forward to holding a seminar in which they can be discussed and compared with the results of others. Smaller, less formal meetings will, of course, continue.

Dr. W.N. Irving, Director

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